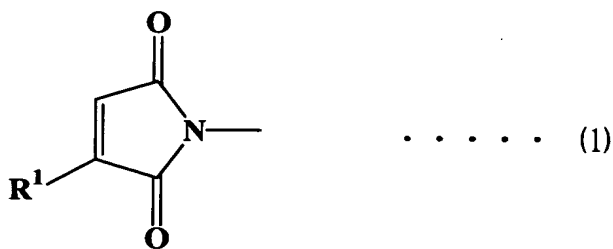


Abstract

The present invention relates to a pressure-sensitive adhesive curable with active energy beams, which is useful as a pressure-sensitive adhesive and pressure-sensitive adhesive sheet. It is liquid at ordinary temperature, undergoes practical crosslinking and curing in the absence of a photopolymerization initiator even when irradiated with visible light or ultraviolet light, and gives a cured coating film which suffers no discoloration and is excellent not only in various pressure-sensitive adhesive performances but in water resistance and heat resistance. The adhesive contains a compound which has two or more maleimide groups represented by the following formula (1) and is liquid at ordinary temperature:



where in formula (1), R¹ represents alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, or halogen.